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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 23. WEEKLY EDITION. APRIL 8, 1871.

NO RING.

BY ALICE CARY.

What is it that doth spoil the fair adorning
With which her lady she would dignify,
When from her bed she rises in the morning
To comb, and plait, and tie
Her hair with ribbons colored like the sky?

What is it that her pleasure discomposes
When she should sit and sing the day away,
Making her see dead roses in red roses,
And in the dewfall gray
A blight that seems the world to overlay?

What is it makes the trembling look of trouble
In her tender mouth, and eyelids fair?
Ah me, ah me! she feels her heart beat double,
Without the mother's prayer,
And her wild fears are more than she can bear.

To the poor sightless lark new powers are given,
To dull earth with a golden tongue to sing,
But still to make her wavering way toward heaven
Must be her daily wing,
But what to her doth her sick sorrow bring?

Her days she turns, and yet keeps overturning,
As fresh fresh shrieks, as if she felt the rod;
For, 'gainst her will, she hears the things concerning
Her unforgiving God,
And loves to be instead, like the clod.

Sweet Heaven, be pitiful! Rain down upon her
The saintly charities ordained for souls—
She sees no spotted spirits, but bears
And she loved much—loved much!
Would, Lord, she had thy garment's hem to touch.

Haply, it was the hungry heart within her,
The woman's heart, denied its natural right,
That made her be the thing men call a sinner,
Even in her own despite.
Lord, that her judges might receive their just sight!

[From the Atlantic Monthly for April.

FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

The Opening of Spring Millinery.

Displays of New Bonnets—Straw in the Ascendant—The "Pompadour" and the "Fron-Fron"—New Dresses, and How to Make Them—Ladies' and Children's Furnishings, etc., etc.

The mildness of the month of March in this latitude, is something so unusual, that we enjoy it with fear and trembling, not knowing how soon a genuine snow-storm may put an end to our pleasure in the beauty and the brightness of the spring sunshine, and spring fashions, as seen through the shop windows.

We are not, as yet, displaying much freshness in street attire, partly because it is Lent, and a penitential soberness is the proper thing, and partly because the styles from Brussels and Vienna will be compared with our home-made designs before deciding whether to bestow our allegiance. The oracles have spoken at last: even Paris has sent a hasty contribution to the general stock, and the result is as uncertain and indefinite as might have been expected—in fact, we know just about as much now as we did before.

CHANGES AND NOVELTIES

Are spoken of, but none have really as yet taken place, and it is not at all likely that any decided change will take place this season. The present styles are really very pretty and very convenient, at least they can be made so, and no one feels inclined to make a change which may be for the worse. Paris has not yet sufficiently recovered from the shocks it has received to originate any new ideas in fashion, and, moreover, has lost the *prestige* and authority which it gained during the empire, while no other European city has ever had any evidence of creative power there is nothing for us to do, therefore, but to fall back upon what we had and improve upon it as far as we can.

There is one great disadvantage in the incessant changes of fashion, which women seem entirely to overlook, and that is the cost of individual articles which it involves. There are some persons to whom certain styles of dress and ornamental accessories belong, as perfume to the flower, and one likes to associate them with their belongings, as if they were the natural outgrowth of their personal appearance.

I remember, for instance, a dove-eyed, gentle woman, whose rich tresses of raven black fell, coil upon coil, and knot of blue ribbon at the throat, seemed as much of her personality as her brown hair and white hands. Then there was a pale, old New York lady, who wore a white *lace* turban, arranged after a peculiar fashion, and fastened with an antique pin of pearls, almost to the day of her death and no amount of false hair would have ever imparted to her appearance the same air of refinement, dignity and distinction. A beautiful and brilliant lady of my acquaintance never appears except in white and pink. Her toilettes are so well chosen and in such exceedingly good taste, however, that I do not believe a single dress of any description generally remarked among her friends. Her costumes consist of rich black silk, velvet and lace. Her evening dresses are of white ribbed satin, trimmed with lace or tulle, and sometimes of black silk profusely trimmed with lace, forming such a widow and rich, she can gratify her tastes. In summer, for house dresses, she wears nothing but black grenadine, and in this the slightness of Swiss, and the wiry transparency of organdie. She is neither a stylish man, nor a reformer, she has abominated short dresses all her life—"All well for you my dear," she says "who has so much to do that it makes you sore headache even to think of it, but for me, what possible necessity is there to wear short dresses? I rarely walk, and never when it rains. No dear, elevate my clothes as you please, for the poor creatures who have to earn their bread with their feet must have some one to look after them, or such shoes as they would be shod with!"

Irish poplins appear in new colors: "English Violet," a lovely shade of blue; "Gallatzer," a purplish butternut color; a new soft spring green with a blue tint (the name I have forgotten), and a brownish yellow, "French Mustard" color.

For black silk suits, the new American *gros grain* at two dollars per yard, is superseding all other styles. It is not a showy silk, but it is heavy, and perfectly pliable, not a grain more or any other material entering into any part of its composition. It was manufactured for the purpose of providing a durable silk at a moderate price, and the tests to which it has been subjected have proved satisfactory in every respect. At first, it seems to cost dust easily, but this goes off, and the dress with ordinary wear looks better than in the first place. The best way to clean it is with a soft brush. Mud is as easily brushed off from it, when it is dry, as from a cloth dress.

There is an all silk imitation of China crepe, which is almost better than the real thing, and is only quarter the price. It is really a beautiful material, fine, only two dollars per yard, and is admirably adapted for the overdress and French *canezou*, for which Canton crape has been lately used by those who could afford to pay the price, ten dollars per yard.

It would take a column to merely catalogue all the seasonable materials displayed in the large houses, but I must just mention the fine twilled silk serges, the *serge poupeau*, which forms a wonderful combination with a rich btown, the frosted Japanese silks with a brocade to match, the darker shade of the same color, the white washing satins for costumes and dresses to be trimmed with black velvet, and the beautiful embroidery on nainsook, the new linens, the "Yokohamas," which are not of any shade of blue, but drawn and imported and admirably well adapted for country wear.

There is no "batiste" this season, though there are some pretty cotton fabrics with a buff colored ground as advertised as *batiste*. There are fine lawns, and organdies, both plain, and with a printed sprig or a *spade en chine* which, together with the white muslins, plain and hair striped, the grenadines, and the numerous family of bereges and lawns afford sufficient opportunities for an extensive summer wardrobe.

SPRING DRESSMAKING AT HOME.

There is no difference in the cut of the skirts, except that the most fashionable dress-makers allow walking skirts to fall a few inches at the back, unless, as is often the case, strict orders are given to the contrary. Trained skirts, on the contrary, are not even suggested in Paris, and when made of rich materials are perfectly plain.

The panier has gone out entirely. Upper skirts, or the skirt of the polonaise, which in some cases continues takes the place of the upper skirts, are looped up at the sides and gathered in full folds, with a square bow with pendent loops or a postillion basque taking the place of the sash.

The most elegant bridal dress of *duchesse* (brocaded) satin was made recently with perfectly plain trained skirt, plain, high basque body, and long close cut coat sleeves. The only trimming allowed consisted of deep ruffles of *duchesse*, placed on the sleeves to fall below the elbow, and on the bottom of the upper basque at the back, and narrow lace ruches at the neck and wrists.

Double skirts are used upon rich dresses when there is little other trimming. A very fashionable method of arranging points for the broad bands of velvet edged on either side with white pleatings of the poplin, bound with the velvet. Three bands of velvet bordering the skirt, or if stripes, how this way, make a very rich and elegant deep trimming for a walking suit with polonaise.

The very fashionable method is also adapted to lighter materials, twilled silk, silk serges, frosted Japanese poplins and the like. The trimming is composed of two folds, one of the material, one of the silk, same color, several shades darker; above this, a band of velvet edged on both sides and bound with the silk. This trimming may be arranged on the overdress, polonaise or skirt, and repeated as a simple border upon the polonaise.

Folds are never placed close to the edge, but always set off from it.

Bodice open V shape, are more fashionable than the square cut, and the new styles of sleeves are found very convenient, as they need only an inside ruffle of lace to complete them and afford full opportunity for the display of the rich cuffs which seems quite to have taken the place of the breastpin. In fact, many ladies have had all the latter articles of jewelry remounted to be worn as pendents.

Few skirts are now lined throughout, and these are not of silk, poplin or any substantial material. Grenadines and light woollen fabrics generally that require lined skirts, and then either of silk is used, matching in color, or plain foulard. Stiff facing is no longer used in the bottom of silk, as it cuts the fabric. An inner lining is substituted and trained under under skirts employed nearly the length of the dress to assist in keeping the proper set to its full length.

Basques, jackets and jackets are still used in costumes, but are considered *passe*; for suits, the polonaise, as was announced some months ago, is the fashionable garment of the season to the exclusion of all others.

Hoops are not worn at all or so very small that they are scarcely perceptible. Half crinolettes have been introduced for summer wear, with a small bustle formed at the back of puffings placed in rows and graduated in size. These are beginning to take the place of the bustle, which is entirely abandoned.

Flippings of a different shade, and of a richer material, as satin upon silk, and silk upon poplin, are employed to edge crescent folds, made of the same material as the dress.

LADIES' READY MADE CLOTHING.

The prediction that the time would come when it would be as rare for women to make the clothing for the family, as it is now for them to spin and weave the cloth, is rapidly being fulfilled. Ten years ago there were only two important ladies' furnishing houses in New York City, and the trade in any one was wholly confined to the costly bridal and other orders for a few wealthy persons.

To-day the ladies and children's furnishing houses are as numerous as the dry goods and thread and needle stores, and the stock is quite as large and varied without the other in any part of New York city. The style and workmanship of the garments found at these establishments vary of course, but are generally very indifferent. They have improved, however, very much within the last few years, and some houses now furnish underclothing of all kinds, well cut and neatly made and trimmed, at the retail cost of materials and labor. Factory-made under clothing is turned out by the thousand dozens, and it is to be seen where it all goes to; it is ill cut and wretchedly made, and therefore cannot be called cheap, even at the low prices at which it is sold, for it must find many purchasers or it would not continue in demand. Twenty-five per cent. would cover, at most, all machine-made articles, and recommend "English" hand-sewing and "English" handembroidery as the cheapest in the end. The preparation of fine trousseaux. Fine hand sewing brings a much higher price than machine sewing, and well-cut garments and tucking done in the material are so costly as to render it more economical to import ready-made garments, if it is the way that we have them done here. Fine linen drawers, exquisitely embroidered upon the material, the workmanship difficult and delicate, and can be purchased of European make, for five dollars per pair, while similar work, up not down, and the cloth employed the operators were to pay the basis whether the coal was found or not. The operators say the men have broken faith.

Some of the largest property-owners in New Orleans have published a card in which they say that as the State debt has already reached its constitutional limit, ($25,000,000,) they will, by every legal means, resist the payment of any interest or the principal of the new bonds authorized by the Legislature at its last session. They say they recognize only the State debt proper, amounting to $6,021,-754 40.

it is all wool, sixty cents per yard, soft and only made in one color, a subdued brown, or "nuns" color. It resists rain like water-proof, never wears out, does not hang or wrinkle, and looks as well at the last as at the first. The coarse twill is considered more distinguished than the fine twill and is precisely the same fabric as that worn by the Carmelite nuns. For a suit for spring and fall, or for any long journey, a suit for spring and fall, or for any long journey, a service, combined with lady-like appearance is required, and the Carmelite serge would be most desirable. Some ladies of very high position have bought suits of it this spring, but shoddy turns up its nose at it.

The old-fashioned *beige* in all wool is another excellent material, and particularly adapted to elderly ladies. It can be purchased in two shades, a rich gray at fifty-five cents per yard, and makes up into maironly suits with the Metternich cape, or more youthfully into skirts, with polonaise, trimmed with folds of the material piped with thick silk.

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THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

Riots is the word which, according to a newspaper correspondent, Prince BISMARCK employs to denote the socialistic rule and disturbances in Paris. The term is undoubtedly well chosen, and indicates the real character of the disgusting exhibition better than any other word. Though in the beginning the movement was, no doubt, an attempt of a few enthusiasts to take advantage of the situation for the purpose of reorganizing society on a new basis by setting up a Communistic republic, it is lost in a very short time all claim to the sort of dignity imparted by the high aspirations regarding human welfare implied in such a purpose. The wishes and theories of the sympathetic idealists, so conspicuous in the movement at first, are utterly swallowed up or banished by the base and selfish motives of a rabble whose ideal of a perfect Commonwealth consists in having enough to eat and nothing to do. A writer in a late French paper who spent some time among the rioters for the purpose of ascertaining their real aims and hopes, while admitting that there were a few honest though deceived men on the lights of Montmartre, describes the great mass of them as lazy scamps of the worst sort, drunk with blue wine and the sanguinary appeals addressed to them by vile journals. He went everywhere among them, conversing with them and listening to their talk among themselves. Anything more contemptible than the character thus disclosed it would be difficult to imagine. Not the slightest trace was discoverable of any hope or desire to effect a social reform for the relief of the miseries of the poor, not the least indication of the respectable, however wild or mistaken, enthusiasm by which impulsive dreamers have sometimes been drawn into rebellion. All evidently resolved to retain and enjoy the state of leisure and comfort secured by their pension from the State treasury, and thus united on a common platform, they appeared to have hardly any other points of agreement. Each individual was plainly at liberty to indulge in any gabble he pleased about every question of the day. All, however, agreed in claiming for themselves a high degree of merit in standing out for the conservation of the republic against those who wished to betray it. They alleged that if the citizens of Montmartre had taken possession of the cannons there, it was to save them for their owners, the people. The reporter is reminded of UGOLINO in the Inferno, who, indeed, ate his own children—but it was to preserve their father alive.

Though sketched early in the revolt, there is no reason to think that the character of the movement, as described, has since undergone any important change. Socialistic in its first impulse, and still socialistic, as it numbers many socialists in its ranks, the movement has evidently gathered up in its advance that entire ignorant, fierce, reckless Parisian populace, who, hating all order, love anarchy for the advantages they hope for from it, and whose existence and activity have so long been the standing difficulty of the French Government, of whatever form. It is hardly credible that the communistic leaders, in view of the failure of their party in the Provinces, can any longer expect to succeed in organizing over France a republic of the kind they wish for. And it is also well known that fierce divisions have broken out in the party in Paris. The leaders are also doubtless well aware of the likelihood of German interposition, should their plans, which manifestly tend to be constant with the fulfilment of the terms of peace. In view of such facts and considerations, there seems little room for doubt that the agitations in Paris are really kept up by the agents of those who do not wish to see a strong, rationally constituted and conservative democratic government established in France. One thing is certain that the riots, as Prince BISMARCK calls them, are the best possible preparation for the restoration of the empire. They are already the best apology yet offered for the usurpation of LOUIS NAPOLEON, as they have revived the condition with all its horrors, the recollection of which is still recent, made his usurnation welcome. Doubtless the exiled Emperor and his friends rejoice in the "riots" as likely to result in the only state of affairs which could make their return to power possible. Under the circumstances it is simply incredible that many of his zealous emissaries are not engaged, variously disguised, in maintaining and extending the reign of anarchy. The fact that neither the mass of the rabble nor their prominent leaders desire the restoration of the empire, casts no improbability upon the suggestion. "Blindly the wicked work." As to the denial in the London papers of any imperial agency in the disturbances, it carries no weight. However hopeless the efforts to recover the position lost, some time must pass yet before they will seem so to the late Emperor and his friends.

Though in the absence of satisfactory evidence it would be very unjust to ascribe any agency in producing or prolonging the riots to Prince BISMARCK, it is "certain that they are very gratifying to him and to the German Government. This view was expressed a few days ago by a respectable German journal, the *New Yorker Staatszeitung*. The editor believes that the agitations in Paris are looked upon with satisfaction at Berlin as pointing to the final restoration of the empire, whose stability would afford the best guaranty of peace and the most trustworthy barrier against the excesses of socialism and communism. That this view prevails in official circles in Berlin the writer infers from a variety of indications. It seems that the man of Sedan has convinced the Prussian Cabinet that he is really a man of peace, who, if left to himself, would never have made war on anybody. It is besides alleged that a majority of the military princes, officers and privates, while confined in Germany, appeared to be still faithful to the Emperor. As announced in our issue of yesterday, Marshal MACMAHON has taken command of the troops for the suppression of the riots. It is well known that *he* still believes in his old master. Quite likely he has owed his military appointment to his popularity with the army, and that he is expected to rally it in support of order and government. Will he try to restore the empire in the person of the Prince Imperial? or will he support a republic? These are questions wich only time can answer.

It is unquestionably gratifying that we *can* pay off the National debt in the shortest time, but such a policy does not accord with the wishes of the people, nor is it favorable to the prosperity of the country. Therefore the delight produced by Mr. BOUTWELL'S monthly bulletins is of the grim description; it is not real, and the people would rather be spared the infliction. The country is oppressed with taxation, but would still bear it without complaint if any actual necessity existed for the rapid extinction of the debt. The present rate cannot always be kept up. There is danger that the old fable of killing the goose that lays the golden egg may receive another illustration in a practical way. No support of credit is so valuable as cheerfulness under taxation. The country is not cheerful under the present system, because it depresses all kinds of business and suggests the possibility of a general breakdown. In South Carolina the cry of repudiation has been raised against the State debt, which entails taxation perfectly disastrous on all business and values. We hope never to hear this cry, which has more than once been on the lips of the Democracy, raised again against the National debt, but if anything can give the color of excuse or extort the cry from the lips of those who have had no sympathy with it, excessive taxation long continued will do it. Therefore, Mr. BOUTWELL'S bulletins, though gratifying in one sense, are not so in another and a larger sense, reminding the country as they do of the extent of taxation that is necessary neither to support our credit or any other vital object.

It was reported recently, on the authority of Mr. COLFAX, who gave it as from the Russian Minister, that France proposed to England and Russia to recognize the Southern Confederacy, and that the arrangement was broken up by the friendly attitude of Russia. This report was the subject of some proceedings in the English House of Lords on the 21st of March, when Mr. HOUGHTON drew the attention of EARL GRANVILLE to the subject, and that gentleman said the report was unfounded, which statement was corroborated by the Duke of SOMERSET, who was a member of Lord PALMERSTON'S Cabinet.

UNIVERSAL amnesty for past offenses (JEFF. DAVIS and a few others excepted) is growing in favor with all sorts of people, as the true policy for the South. It is certain that the mode of treatment which has thus far been adopted has not succeeded well. How much better it would have succeeded but for the unhappy influence exerted by the presence of the carpet-baggers with Federal commissions in their pockets, we are left to conjecture. There is no doubting, however, that this has been the cause of much of the trouble and failure in the South. But the mischief of the past cannot be undone. There is, however, a growing sentiment in favor of coupling amnesty with the legislation deemed necessary in view of the recent outbreaks—the sword and olive branch at one and the same time. There is one aspect of the present situation unfavorable to such a policy. We mean the encouragement which the Ku-Klux villains receive from the Democracy, North and South. The leaders of that party can if they will perform a great service in the work of pacification. Were they to proclaim, sternly and at all times, that the Ku-Klux villains are enemies, not allies, that no sympathy is felt for them, and no step backward ought or will be taken, a quieting effect would at once be produced. That they do not do this is not only a fact plain to every one, but is direct encouragement to those who commit the outrages—and all this is an impediment to the amnesty policy. Nevertheless it is growing in favor and will probably be adopted.

It is not at all improbable that the report of the San Domingo Commissioners will be influenced somewhat by events happening in their absence, and facts relating to public sentiment in this country. It seems not so much a question now how to put the measure through as how to get rid of it, rather how to manage it so that the least harm possible will be inflicted on the originators and Republican party. By this view of the case it is quite likely that the recommendations of the report will be qualified. Dr. HOWE, one of the Commissioners, since his return, has been staying with Mr. SUMNER, and it is but natural to suppose that the views of the Senator will have some weight with him. Mr. SUMNER, it will be remembered, is not so much opposed to annexation as the manner in which the business has been managed, wherein he probably is in accord with the great majority of Republicans, with whom the roots of the project are as yet an open question.

THE Tammany leaders are preparing to extend their rule over other cities and States, and for this purpose will add twelve million dollars to the funds they will control during the coming year, for not not one cent of which will they give an account. It would seem that there must be a limit to the endurance of which the city of New York is capable, and that the startling expensiveness of Democracy there must produce a reaction. At any rate, people outside of the city have an opportunity to make up their minds in advance, whether they want Tammany tactics extend over the whole country, and the machinery invented to run the metropolis set up at the National Capital. The question is sufficiently real and serious to arrest the attention of most men, Democrats as well as Republicans.

It stated that the report of the Pennsylvania *Legislative Coal Investigation Committee* will be adverse to the miners, in which case Governor GEARY will probably perform a great service in the work of pacification. Were they to proclaim, sternly and at all times, that the Ku-Klux villains are enemies, not allies, that no sympathy is felt for them, and no step backward ought or will be taken, a quieting effect would at once be produced. That they do not do this is not only a fact plain to every one, but is direct encouragement to those who commit the outrages—and all this is an impediment to the amnesty policy. Nevertheless it is growing in favor and will probably be adopted.

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Breadstuffs—Position and Prospects.

In a summary of the position and prospects of breadstuffs the *Financial Chronicle* says the figures show an advance in flour and wheat of more than forty per cent, as compared with March, 1870, and an improvement in all the coarse grains except corn, the position of which is changed from scarcity to full supply. The advance in wheat and flour is accounted for by the increased demand for export during the war on the continent, lasting about eleven months, thus effecting a considerable reduction in the surplus stocks held one year ago. The large advance has been so gradually made, and attended with such frequent and sharp transactions, as to surprise those who have not given the matter close attention. The prospects for the maintenance of this advance are not clear. The *Chronicle* thus sums up:

The situation in France, Germany and Belgium would seem to indicate that a call upon Great Britain and the United States to meet a deficiency, will be necessary, but of course so long as the present disorganization in France continues, shipments to that quarter must be held in check. And may it not prove that the means of buying have been largely swept away by the same causes which seem to have made buying necessary? The revolutionary proceedings in Paris have greatly impaired the credit of France and her people; industrial pursuits have been crippled by the war, and all legitimate sources of income diminished. Vast quantities of food have already been shipped to French markets, and when these shall be exhausted supply will be well advanced. Hence there can be no certain reliance placed upon the renewal of the considerable demand from the Continent; and, under these circumstances, unless there is strong evidence of a short crop this season in Great Britain, the West may be considered fortunate if its surplus for the remainder of the crop year can be shipped at all without incurring any considerable reduction in values.

In the coarser grains, the situation may be regarded as more favorable for holders. The partial failure of the hay crop has led to an increased demand for fattening purposes. Corn, though in large supply, moves off very freely, both for export and consumption. It is relatively much cheaper than any other cereal. Not only does Great Britain want a large and steady supply, but the Eastern and Middle States have a great deficiency to be made good. Oats and barley, though showing a full yield and liberal stocks, appear to be much wanted, and the comparatively high prices which oats are bringing seem to be no impediment to their sale, while the use of barley for malting exceeds all previous experience.

Canadian Pacific Railroad.

Long since a Canadian Inter-Oceanic Railroad was projected, to pass from ocean to ocean through British territory, from Halifax to Vancouver's Island. The scheme has been held in abeyance until recently. The great success attending the opening of the American Pacific Roalroad has awakened the sleeping energy of British capitalists, and now the prospect that the projected line will be constructed without delay. Last week a proposition was made in the Canadian Parliament, at Ottawa, on behalf of the government, to aid in the building of the road to the extent of $1,500,000 a year, the Dominion Government then formally adopting the enterprise, and doubtless with the sanction of the home Government. To this guarantee there is said to be opposition, arising from the unsatisfactory condition of the finances of the Dominion, and the complication of the measure with the proposed immediate admission of British Columbia into the Confederation, but it is thought the objections urged will be overcome. The railway is to be 2,500 miles long, is to be begun in 1873 and finished in 1881, the work to go on simultaneously from both ends. By this new route British Columbia is to be connected with the Canadian railways, and England thus hopes to gain a short path to India, China over her own territory and subject to her exclusive control. There is every reason to believe, however, that the ten years in which this road is to be finished will make New York the undisputed centre of the European and San Francisco of Asiatic communication over this continent. It is well suggested, too, that our Pacific Railroad was not constructed a year too soon, to enable it to attract over our territory the rich oriental commerce disturbed from its old channels.

The Joint High Commission—Anxiety in England.

[London Correspondence Courier-Journal.]

There is some anxiety felt in England in regard to the result of the deliberations of the Joint High Commission. The solicitude arises from a distrust lest the demand of the Americans may be too exorbitant. The bold and reckless speeches of such United States Senators as Messrs. Chandler, Howard and Sumner have prompted this fear. The papers discuss at length that may arise with the United States, and among other in the event of war. They declare that as long as Canada remains faithful to the mother country, the Government will defend it to the last penny. Judge from present appearances at the present time, it would be safe to say that England will grant pretty much all the United States during the rebellion. There is, however, a genuine disposition to make all honorable reparation for the depredations that may have been committed. Notwithstanding such action on the part of the Government, the sympathies of Americans with cheap and harmless wit upon their manners and customs and sneer at their statesmen, the mass of the English people are friendly. One sees evidences of this friendliness in the theater. Should the actor make a hit at the expense of some European people, to tickle the British audience, it, it immediately calls forth vociferous cheering from the gallery, and clapping of hands from the pit. But let him make a like reference to the United States, and there is a dignified silence, disturbed, perhaps, by a few hisses. One sees evidences of the same spirit in the speeches of the public men of the Liberal party. It is the fashionable sentiment that the true great English-speaking peoples should be at perfect peace with one another, and it is the prayer of every true Englishman that such a union may be made lasting by the Commission now assembled in Washington.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 8, 1871.

WASHINGTON.

Reception of the Message and Report

A Lively Time in the Senate—Decided Opposition to Further Debate on the San Domingo Question—Count Treilhard Insane, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 30, 1871.

A Very Extraordinary Scene

Took place in the Senate to-day, between Garrett Davis and Ben. Butler, which while it lasted, created a profound sensation, especially in the galleries. Garrett had been speaking for some time upon Sherman's resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a Ku-Klux bill, and had worked himself up into considerable passion at what he considered the unjust charges of disorders made upon the South, when Ben. Butler came into the Senate. At this point Davis was facing his Democratic colleagues, and was apparently exhorting them. Butler, observing who was speaking, marched over in that direction and took a seat directly next to the Kentucky Senator; then, stretching his legs out, he wheeled his chair around, threw his head back and looked at Davis with an expression on his face of mingled amusement and contempt. The galleries, thinking it a mere piece of bravado, enjoyed the the thing hugely. Davis, whose back was still turned, had not reached that point in his speech where he was claiming that the stories of Southern outrages were grossly exaggerated. "They are more," said he, "the vile inventions of the unprincipled adventurers and heartless scoundrels, made to combine their fortunes with and in political power; they are," and here, turning around in the warmth of his feeling, he beheld Butler almost at his elbow, and straightening himself up at him with a face immovable as stone. Davis immediately paused in his half finished sentence, placed both hands on his desk, and glared at Butler almost with the ferocity of a tiger, Butler returned the Kentuckian's look unflinchingly, only growing a trifle paler. This tableau continued for several moments, neither of the men changing his attitude a particle, while the galleries looked on in painful suspense, and surrounding Senators held their breaths and affected an unconcern which no one felt. Finally Garrett, drew himself up, thrust his clenched fist almost in Butler's face, and said, sneer! here is the man. This is the class of men who concoct the stories of diabolical Southern outrages, and then asked for unlimited power to suppress them. Look at the scoundrel! here he is," and his excitement became too great for him, he sank back in his seat, while the Speaker promptly suppressed some threatening demonstrations which were attempted in the galleries. It being one of those things where interference was a very delicate matter, no one had attempted anything of the kind thus far, and those present breathed more freely when Garrett dropped into his seat. Still Butler never budged nor altered the expression of his face by a thousandth part, and was were turned upon him. Garrett was no sooner in his chair than he wheeled it around and commenced to draw it up by sharp jerks in the direction of Butler, until the distance between them was almost imperceptible, when he rasped out again with "Oh, you scoundrel! you rascal!" with a few strong adjectives prefacing each of the above epithets. What Butler said in reply was lost in the Butler replied, "Go away from me. What do you suppose I care about you? Go away, sir!" Garrett then got up and left Butler, when Henry Wilson left his own seat, hurried over to the scene of the threatened conflict, and placed himself between the two men, stopped the disgraceful proceedings at once. Davis, on being appealed to in a complimentary manner, calmed down at once, and retired into one of the Senate anterooms. Butler, however, stalked around the Senate chamber for a few minutes, laughing and talking as if nothing whatever had occurred. When Davis was asked, later in the day, why he gave way to his opponents in such a cowardly manner, he replied that it was very evident to him that Butler took the step he did with other purpose than to insult him, and he would allow no man to do that. Butler, however, says that he no more thought of Davis when he left his seat than he did of the man in the moon, and never had the least idea of insulting him. If Butler must have rows, he had better keep on his own side of the house.

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Mr. Strakosch has also made Nilsson an offer for any nights next season that she may consent or oppose as he should choose, but at last accounts no conclusion of the negotiation had been reached. However, with a well organized Italian troupe, and to give upon our shores, and with the prospect of being next fall both Nilsson and Patti, the two greatest prima donnas now in the world, to say nothing of the two English opera companies which may certainly be counted on, one of which is led by the famous Parepa-Rosa, we have every reason to anticipate the most brilliant operatic season ever seen in America.—*Philadelphia Press.*

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FINANCE AND TRADE

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—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	62½
Philadelphia and Erie	27½
Lehigh Navigation	39¾
Lehigh Valley	61¾
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	49
Lehigh Valley Railroad to Bingham's special	60
North Pennsylvania Railroad	45¼
Camden and Amboy Railroad	119
Schuylkill Navigation	17¾
Reading	54¼

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds, Railroad Bank, Express stocks and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, he buys and sells stocks on a margin, for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or well improved property, notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, April 5, 1871. }

REMARKS—Witherspoon, we believe it was, who advised writers to "say what they hat to say in the fewest possible words, in the shortest possible time, and to be seated as quick as you can get." Following his wise counsel, we have simply to remark that the markets are unchanged with regard to prices. The volume of trade is on the increase, and everybody seems satisfied with the situation. Stocks are ample, and no purchaser can fail to find just what he wants, cheap and upon the most liberal terms. First class houses use the columns of the COMMERCIAL, to which we refer our readers. The local market is well supplied.

Following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past two weeks, which will be found useful for reference:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	5,491	4,673	10,364
Apples, bbls	798	656	1,456
Cheese, boxes	253	607	862
Corn, sacks	10,300	2,600	12,900
Wheat, sacks	5,735	3,800	9,535
Barley, sacks	2,541	1,448	3,989
Rye, sacks	1,631	1,414	3,445
Oats, sacks	6,533	7,076	13,608
Butter, packages	291	374	665
Potatoes, bbls	1,411	1,407	2,818
Bacon, tierces	319	484	803

The following are the receipts for March, 1870, and March, 1871:

	March, 1870.	March, 1871.	Increase.
Flour, bbls	18,429	20,225	1,796
Apples, bbls	7,175	6,110	
Cheese, boxes	2,004	3,132	1,128
Corn, sacks	25,000	26,999	1,999
Wheat, sacks	13,798	17,774	3,976
Barley, sacks	12,541	11,976	
Rye, sacks	4,367	6,376	2,069
Oats, sacks	10,752	28,162	17,410
Butter, packages	2,466	3,500	1,094
Bacon, pieces	3,725	27,514	23,909
Bacon, tierces		1,588	1,588

Below find the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted.

APPLES—We are reported sales at $3 25 for choice $ barrel. Common is $1 00@2 00 per bbl. Receipts in: 127 bbls.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales of 1 gallon buckets at $10 50 per dozen; in kegs and firkins 10@80c $ gal.

ASHES—Soda Ash, refined, 5½ $ cent., 3½@4c; common, 4½ $ cent., 3½c; Potash 7@7½c; Pearls 9@9½c $ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Prices nominal at $2 50@$2 75 $ bbl.

BROOM CORN—Regular sales at 5@6c $ lbl.

BRANS—We report an active demand, with regular sales of small navy $1 50@2 00 $ bushel.

BEESWAX—Market firm; sales at 30@31c $ lb.

BAKING POWDERS—Banner ¼-lb cans, $ doz, $1 75; ½-lb cans, $2 25; 1-lb cans, $6; 5-lb cans, $30.

BACON AND HAMS—Sugar cured hams at 11½c per lb.

BACON AND PROVISIONS.—In this branch of trade we have no changes to note in prices. The fair trade is reported at the following quotations: Shoulders, plain, 9¾@9¾c; sugar cured do 10½@10¾c; Sides, ribbed, 11½c; clear do 12½c; Breakfast bacon, 15@15½c; sugar cured hams, 15½c. Dried beef, 19@19½c. Lard—sales prime kettle rendered, in tierces, 12½@13c; buckets, 14c; kegs, 13½@14c. Mess pork, $22 00 $ bbl. Country lard 11@12.

CHEESE—N. Y. Goshen, 18@19½c; Ohio Goshen, 17½@18c; Ohio Factory 16@17c; Western Reserve, 15½@16½c $ lb. Receipts in: 607 boxes.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Pennsylvania $6@6 50; Philadelphia $6 50.

CORN MEAL—The market is inactive, and we quote $ bbl at $3 25; 90@95c $ bushel.

CRANBERRIES—Sales of Bell-ville berries $25 $ barrel; other varieties at $12@14@15.

CARBON OIL—Sales standard brands at 22½@23c by car load.

CANDLES—Mould 12c; star, full weight, 19c; short weight, 17c; sperm 39½@40c $ lb.

COAL—The supply of anthracite is light, as is the demand. We are reported sales by the car load at $6@6 50 $ ton.

CEMENT—Louisville hydraulic at $3 00@3 50 $ barrel. Beeson's Phœnix hydraulic at $3 75 $ barrel.

DRIED FRUIT—Peaches—quarters 9½@10c; halves 12@12½c; sliced 10½@11c. Apples—quarters 6@7½c; sliced 8½@9c $ lb.

EGGS—The supply has fallen off, and prices are rather more firm at 15@16c $ dozen for strictly fresh.

FOREIGN FRUITS—Currants 12@13c $ pound. Prunes 12@13c. Malaga raisins $4 15@4 25; layers $4 25 per box.

FEATHERS—Sales of live geese feathers No. 1 80c $ lb in the trade.

FLOUR—Receipts 185 barrels. Advices from the ruling figures: National mill, white brands, $6 75@7 in sacks; $7 00; Pan Handle, (Southern amber) in barrels $7 40, in sacks $7 10; Morning Glory, in barrels $7 00, in sacks $6 90; Palmetto, in barrels $7 25; in sacks $6 95. The store rates for standard western brands were as follows: Choice spring $7 $7 or choice Minnesota $7 25; choice winter $7 00 $ bbl, sacks $6 75; fancy do $7 25 $ bbl; sacks $7 00.

GRAIN—The feeling in grain, particularly wheat, continues strong and prices are firm at quotations. The receipts since our last were as follows: Oats 169 sacks; rye 106 sacks; barley 65 sacks; wheat 161 sacks; corn 599 sacks. As indicated, prices are firm but no higher. We quote wheat by the canaller at $1 40@1 43@1 45; white $1 50@1 53@1 55; nothing like a chance for white. Corn—Shelled in store, 55@56c; ear 50@52c; in depot at 54@56c; ear rates, small way, 50@55c. Corn—steady and unchanged. Sales of car on wharf and depot at 54@56c; for mixed to prime yellow. Oats—Sales in store, 45@47c; in depot, 43@45c. Rye $1 06 $ bush. Barley—dull and unchanged; sales spring at 80@85c; fall 90@95c $ bush.

GROCERIES—We have no change to note in prices. Trade is reported very brisk at the following:

Raw Sugars—Strictly prime choice 11¼@; prime 10¾c; good 9½c; fair 9c. Porto Rico—Choice 11¾c; prime 11c; good 10½c.

Refined Sugars—Steady at 14c. Refined sugars active at an advance of ¼c; A 12½c; B 12¾c; extra C 12½c; yellow C 11¾c; coffee C 12c; powdered 13½c.

Syrups—Steady at 47@48c; white honey 65c; silver drips 60c; extra honey 65c; lower grade 40 to 50c.

New Orleans Molasses—Good 65c; prime 70c; choice 72c.

Coffees—Strictly prime 19c; prime 18¾c; good 16¾@17c; fair 15¾@15¾c; roasted in papers 22c.

Teas—Fancy Young Hyson $1 20; choice $1 25; fair $1 00; lower grades down to 70c; G. P. fancy $1 40; good $1 20; fair $1 10; Imperial fancy $1 40; good $1 20; fair $1 00; Oolong fancy $1 30; good $1 20; fair 60@70c; Souchong fancy $1 20; good 90c; fair 70@80c; Japan fancy $1 60; good 90c; fair 70c.

Spices—Grain pepper 21c. Pimento 17c. Cloves 20c. Cassia 50c.

Rice—Firm and higher; sales choice Carotina at 9¾c; prime 9c; Rangoon 8c.

HAY is in better demand, and sales are made at $14 00@19 00 from wagon, and $14 00@16 00 from wharf, baled, $ ton.

HOPS—Quiet but light and demand fair; new crop is worth 21@22c $ lb.

HIDES—There is a little better demand; green salted prime cows and steers 7½@8c; dull; green salted grass butchers (cow and steer) 7@8; green salted calf 14@16; do calf 16@18. Dry Flint nominal at 20@24c.

HORSES—Regular sales at 3@3½c per lb.

HONEY—Sales at 25@30c $ lb.

LIME—We areported sales Cleveland white at $2 25 $ bbl.; Eastern $1 75.

LARD—Sales in barrels, No. 1 $1 08@1 10, No. 2 $0 98@1 02; Chicago and Cincinnati winter strained, $1 10 per gallon.

LARD OIL—The demand is not quite so active and prices rather weaker. We quote choice middlings at $2 00 $ cwt.; seconds, $1 75; shorts, $1 30; rye shorts, $1 65; chopped corn and oats $1 65; chopped corn, $1 60; bolted corn meal, 85 per bushel.

MAPLE MOLASSES AND SUGAR—Regular sales are made at $1 60@1 75 per gallon—sugar 10@18c per pound.

ONIONS—Sot onions have advanced to $7 00@8 00 per bushel; out dull sale at $4 00@4 50 per barrel.

POTATOES—Peach blows lower at $1 28 per bushel; Jersey sweets firm $5 00 per barrel.

PEANUTS—New Tennessee sell readily at 6@8c.

RYE FLOUR—Little demand, and prices unchanged; we quote at $6 50 per barrel.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER.—Sales ½ lb cans $1 50; ½ lb $3 00; 1 lb $6 00 per dozen.

RAGS—There is a fair demand for rags at 4@4½c $ lb.

SUMAC—Sales of Tennessee at 4½c per lb.

SALT—Sales by the car load at $1 60@1 65; the SEEDS—Almost every kind of seeds are now in demand; clover meets ready sale at $7 00@7 50; timothy $5 50@6 00; and flaxseed $2 00@2 25.

SAPOLIO—Sales at $6 50 per half gross.

SOAP—Colgate's sterling soap, $3 75 per box; Babbitt's, 11c; Oakley's, 10½c; chemical for all descriptions olive, 8c; rosin, No. 1, 6c $ lb.

SODA—Sales in kegs 6c; boxes, assorted papers 8c; sal soda 3½c $ lb.

TALLOW—Sales of city refined at 8½@8½c $ lb.

TURNIPS—Are about played out," and are dull sale at 80@85c $ barrel.

WOODENWARE—Pails, 2 hoop, $2 25; 3 hoop $2 65. Tubs, No. 1, 3 hoops, $11 00; No. 2, 2 hoops, $9 50; No. 3, 2 hoops, $8 50. Washboards $2 75.

WILLOWS—Sales of Kentucky Willows

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1871.

TERMS.

One copy, per year.....$2 00
8 clubs of twenty per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

THE ONLY RIGHT WAY.

That the COMMERCIAL no journal has been more fearlessly outspoken in its denunciation of the Ku-Klux outrages perpetrated upon white and black Republicans in the South, nor more earnest in its advocacy of prompt legislation and thorough action with respect to the unsettled States. We have repeatedly uttered our conviction that the present disordered condition of the South was largely owing to the moral support rendered its lawless classes by the Northern Democratic press, and have as often urged it to throw its influence upon the side of order and government by reprobating the excesses of its Southern allies. But the fatuity of Democracy is such that its absurd theory that the central government is acting outside of constitutional restrictions, blinds it to every danger and every duty; and hence, if it does not actually cry "tally-ho" to the hounds who are tearing their prey, it lends them its countenance by looking on with its hands in its pockets, and whistling a jovial air.

But while we insist that these disturbers of public peace and public welfare should not be allowed to go unshipped of justice, we are firmly held in the belief that the time has also come wherein the Republican party must see to it that the bad and mischievous men who in those States have succeeded in obtaining place and power, are ousted from their positions as leaders and guides. The Republican party cannot any longer afford the strain which the mal-practice and mal-administration of men of reckless and boundless ambition have imposed upon it. One of the most prominent characteristics of the times is the unanimity with which the leading Republican journals begin to demand a radical reformation in the organization of its own ranks in this respect.

It is a good sign. Every thinking and intelligent man who can raise himself above the excitement of the moment must cherish the wish that the flames of partisan prejudice may speedily die out. To this end great caution and prudence must be exercised. Even under the most pacific circumstances the strife of politics tends to unsettle the calmest understanding and ulcerate the most benevolent heart. There are no bigotries nor absurdities too gross for parties to create or adopt under the stimulus of political passion. The path of all wise statesmanship lies between two opposite insanities, and we can never appreciate the grand serenity of LINCOLN'S immortal sentence, "With malice toward none, with charity for all," until we realize the madness, rancor and folly which mixed with the atmosphere he was compelled to breathe. Between men like the actors in the disgraceful rencontre in the United States Senate on Thursday—DAVIS, of Kentucky, the incarnation of hatred of innovation, and BUTLER, of Massachusetts, the incarnation of love of innovation, the welfare of the nation is in sore stress. The one would confine Liberty in a strait-waistcoat, the other would arm her with fire-brands, and both are partisans in whose struggles common sense is superseded by common consent.

In the disaffected States of the South the two most striking qualities underlying the disorder are those of levity and malignity. With the Southerner, hatred of the carpet-bagger takes the place of political principle—his conception of the character of the virtues has declined so deeply that treachery becomes justice and assassination patriotism; while on the other hand the PUCKS who have been raised to the seats of JOVE, like all incompetent men who are cursed with power, try to make proscription perform the work of foresight and insight. The KU-KLUX commit murder because they do not indulge in thought; they have ended in becoming fiendish because they started in being foolish—while the local officers of more than one of the Southern States have failed miserably because their initial movements were based on perversity and presumption. The scant thought which they ever had took the form of an inexorable but bad logic, and now that they have reached the limits of their little syllogism they find that the more they chop and hack the more complicated become their difficulties. No great conception of statesmanship that might serve to open a path through the entanglement comes into their unfertile brain: the very best of which they seem capable is to go on blundering and blundering. Many a man who would make an admirable leader of a debating club ruins a State by being put at the head of its affairs.

Now the grave problem of the South is to be solved in no such supercilious way. It is a problem which calls for the exercise of the genius and energy and patience of our wisest and most experienced men—men of that large and liberal intelligence which thinks into the meaning of institutions—who are emancipated from egotism, passion and folly—who are tolerant as well as earnest, and merciful as well as just. It is a problem which calls for the overthrow of corrupt and incompetent State officers, for the purification of legislation, for the lowering of taxation and the practice of strict economy, for the ostracism of demagogue, who parade themselves as martyrs, for the belief that every "rebel" is not necessarily a reprobate, and above all for that true patriotism which the permanent welfare of the country puts above the exigences of party or the desire of power.

WHAT curious anomalies there are in our modern civilization. Mr. FREDERICK DOUGLASS accompanied the San Domingo Commissioners to the Republic of Dominica and Hayti, making considerably extended journeys into the former country, and encountering people of all classes and conditions. While he has given it as his judgment that the Haytiens are a far inferior people to the Dominicans, he does not appear to entertain a very exalted opinion of the character of the latter. Wherever he went, however, and from whomsoever he found himself in contact with, he received hospitality and courteous treatment. Not until he got away from the barbarism and oppression of those semi-savage islands, and had neared the capital of his own civilized and Christianized country, did he meet with insult and contempt. We should like to know what are the logical inferences and deductions drawn by Mr. DOUGLASS from his treatment while on the mail boat between Acquia Creek and Washington. It is an interesting psychological question, for he is a shrewd thinker, and reaches conclusions out of the common way. Perhaps he will fancy that if the outcome of tropic despotism is courtesy, and the results of temperate-zoned freedom are snobbery and cant, it is an open question whether annexation is desirable after all. "Don't join the church," said a man to his scape-grace friend. "It cannot possibly benefit you, and may result in incalculable mischief to the members." May be MR. DOUGLASS recollected this story. But if he did not it is none the less pertinent.

WHILE few can be found to approve the taste or applaud the spirit displayed by Mr. SUMNER in closing his latest speech, wherein he offensively refers to the President in connection with the Ku-Klux outrages, it must be conceded that the wish is universal and earnest that the Southern problem might command the zeal, and unanimity, too, which have characterized the San Domingo business. There is something extraordinary in the fact that caucus decisions can be induced for objects, on which, to say the least, the people are divided, while concerning questions about which there is no difference concentration of thought and unanimity of action at Washington appear quite out of the question. There is a San Domingo policy, but very little policy about the grave Southern question. All this the country does not like, any more than it likes the indifference manifested concerning Civil Service Reform and high taxes—questions of vital importance, and concerning which there is general unanimity—when there is so much energy manifested in acquiring part of an island for which nobody—without some speculators have done so—has asked. Let Mr. MORTON, in the Senate, where, as much as any one, he is leader, take these things into account, so that the Republican party be no longer placed on an unnatural and destructive strain, but united and preserved, and the country benefited by the continuance of the Government in its hands.

A WORKINGMAN'S WORD ON LABOR.

In these days of perpetually recurring strikes, conventions, combinations and other forms of action and organization arising out of the conflict between Capital and Labor, it is good to find that such old-fashioned common-sense views as those embodied in the following paragraph from a late letter to a New England journal have not wholly passed out of existence. The writer—a laboring mechanic—says:

"A man should have a right to sell his labor—the work of his hands—at any price he pleases; he should be the sole judge—no one else has a right to interfere. It is the old oligarchy of slavery. What is the difference whether you are a slave to an individual or to society?—the result is the same. Every man has the right to fix the price at which he will work—the number of hours he will work, and all the conditions relating thereto. It is a matter which concerns himself alone, and the capitalist has the same right; he is the sole judge how much he can afford to pay. If I can get three dollars for working ten hours per day, and am strong, robust and hearty, and believe it for my interest and the interest of my family,—if I can better educate them, impart to them more culture and refinement, and give them a higher social position, by *working fourteen hours for four dollars*, and *twenty-five cents*, no one who has a right to say I shall not work the fourteen hours per day! How or where does any one—the legislature or a society—find the right to step between me and the man who wants my labor, and say how much he shall pay or how much I shall receive?

Without disputing the right either of Capital or Labor to enter into combinations for the greater development or better protection of its interests, we are confident that a vast amount of crude and immature half-thought has shrieked itself hoarse upon this question. There is food for very grave reflection in the views of the writer above quoted. In previous articles on the strike in the anthracite coal regions, we have unequivocally condemned the spirit of intolerance and coercion, which, first on one side and then on the other, has sought to compel the contestants into submission and surrender. Not to speak of the consequences of the lock-out to thousands of poor families in New York and other cities, with whom the question of cheap coal is often well nigh a matter of life and death, nor of its demoralizing and paralyzing effects on trade and industry of every kind—its results in Schuylkill county alone show how thoroughly these ill-starred antagonisms are fraught with trouble and disaster. In that county alone there are something over two hundred collieries, with an invested capital of about $12,000,000. A number of operators have $200,000 invested in a single colliery, and others less. The average loss to each colliery while lying idle is at least $1,000 per month, making in all over $200,000 a month, or nearly two and a half million dollars a year dead loss. Taken in connection with the loss to railroad companies during the suspension, the aggregate amount will fully reach three million dollars a year, direct loss entailed by suspension, without reckoning the damage inflicted upon other industries, the depreciation of property, or even including the privations of the miners themselves. We believe that WENDELL PHILLIPS and other men of his class have wrought grave evil to the workingman and his cause by precipitating the labor question upon politics. It is true that the laborer ought to be heard, but so also ought the capitalist. The disinterference has shown that they are equally safe in all respects.

In the West, we believe, schemes for building narrow gauge roads are far advanced, if work upon them has not already begun. One is to be constructed from the main line of the Pacific road in Nevada, to the White Pine mineral regions, a distance of over one hundred miles, and in Colorado, also, it is proposed to penetrate the mountains with such branch roads. A committee of the Massachusetts legislature has reported on the subject, estimating that these narrow roads, say of two feet nine inches in width, can be built and equipped for $14,000 per mile, as against $24,000 as the lowest cost for a road of the ordinary width. One disadvantage is mentioned, viz: that all goods brought into the trunk lines upon them would have to be transhipped to the larger cars, but even this is not considered sufficient to counterbalance the great gains in the original cost and the expense of the maintenance. If the advantages claimed for this description of roads be well founded, and of this there seems to be little doubt, their general adoption is pretty well assured, unless the superiority in speed, conceded to the broader gauges, as passenger carriers, more than counterbalances drawbacks as freight carriers.

GIVE THEM A CHANCE.

In every matter that pertains near or remotely to the colored man, the Democratic press, often otherwise fair and honorable minded, appears to be afflicted with the chronic habit of viewing the subject in a totally false light, and of carrying into the discussion a spirit of infinitesimal littleness. Alluding to the recent resignation of his seat in the United States Senate by Governor ALCORN, of Mississippi, the Cincinnati *Enquirer* mentions the probability that ex-Senator REVELS will be chosen to fill his place, and adds:

"They have five negroes in the House of Representatives, and it would not do for the Republicans not to have one in the Senate."

"Would not do." As if it were a mere question of numerical equality or equipoise, as with weights of swine or herds of cattle. This is not the right spirit to bring to the discussion of grave subjects. Has the *Enquirer* observed that any calamity has befallen Congress or the nation from the elevation of these members of the proscribed race? Did not Senator REVELS and Representative RAINEY conduct themselves with modesty, dignity and decorum during the last Congress? Why, then, this sardonic derision and this unconquerable prejudice? The capacity of any race to take on forms of high civilization and culture is to be determined by tests, not by supercilious comparisons. A people which has the courage to do battle for its freedom, the manhood to work for its support, the intellectual craving which puts education above riches, and the moral cohesiveness which binds its members together for mutual helpfulness and ministration, deserves better treatment than either morose disdain or contemptuous condescension. We are not an advocate of agragrianism; we desire to level upwards instead of downwards; but we demand for the black man, as for the white, a fair field and no favor. How patiently and assiduously, and with what remarkable results these people are trying to overcome the intellectual dullness and heaviness entailed upon them in their long years of enforced ignorance and unrequited labor, let the following extract from a private letter, published in the New York *Post* of Tuesday, written from Atlanta by a gentleman whom that journal pronounces "responsible," attest. He says:

"I spent all the morning at the colored normal school. My surprise was very great to find that the colored boys and girls passed an examination in Greek with an average proficiency better than is found in Andover. I think I should have believed this in no other testimony than that of my own eyes."

In the whole realms of noble effort under adverse circumstances there is nothing more heroic or more touching than this. The outcome of ages on ages of oppression and depression—cowed hitherto by scourges and chains—starved hitherto of all lifting and enlightening fellowships—dead hitherto to the fine and subtle movements of the brain which are supposed to come only of centuries of backward-reaching civilization—these people, or their sons and daughters, reading Greek with "a better average proficiency than is found at Andover." If the *Enquirer* will endeavor hereafter to remember that "these are they who have come up out of great tribulation," we will in turn try to forget the part it took in seeking to make that tribulation perpetual.

SOME of the numberless difficulties which independent journalism has to encounter are shown in the desperate efforts now being made by the agents and abettors of the Tammany ring to muzzle, or failing of that to destroy the New York *Times*. This paper has been instant in season and out of season in exposing and denouncing the various iniquities and corruptions which distinguish the municipal rule of that city. The natural result is that it has incurred the bitter hatred of every member of the gang, from TWEED and SWEENY down through all the descending strata of their apologists and allies. HOFFMAN abhors it, and so does the shoulder-hitting repeater who votes for him. FOX loathes it, but not more than do the ballot queens whom he has at spended out of his stealings. There is an offensive and defensive alliance against it, which embraces equally the vicious combinations of money and brains that concoct rascalities and set them in motion, and the purchaseable instrumentalities, whether lawyers or ballot-box stuffers, selected for carrying them out. The crusade which the *Times* has, almost single-handed, waged against these rogues has been as courageous and conscientious as the crusades of the Christian knights against the infidel Moslems. It has given no quarter, and asked none; and its ability and pluck deserve the approbation of every honest journal and every upright man. During the earlier stages of the conflict the Ring and its emissaries tried to intimidate it. A number of frivolous and vexatious suits were, on various pretexts, brought against it, and in every way that ingenuity could devise the frightened harpies sought to hamper and restrict its influence. When it became evident that these attempts only had the effect of causing it to double-shot its guns and increase the rapidity of its fire, another method was resorted to. Intimidation gave place to bribery, and offers were made to purchase its silence with money. When it was found that neither bullying nor coaxing was of avail, a few stockholders who have an itching palm, were approached, and overtures made to them to sell their shares to Tammany, so that the Ring-masters might get an opportunity to cripple it with mandamuses, injunctions and similar appliances. The principal manager and owner, however, has published a card in which he states that he will neither consent to the sale of the *Times*, nor discontinue his exposures of Tammany legislation and practice; and threatens that if TWEED, SWEENEY and Co. should on any pretence succeed in getting control of that journal, he will establish another paper into which shall be carried all the principles which characterize its present management. It is barely possible that the unscrupulous character of the Ring, and the unlimited money at its command, may ultimately enable it to destroy the value of the *Times* as a property; but it does not seem possible that in the long run such an attempt to muzzle and coerce the press can result otherwise than in the increased prosperity of the man whom this clique appears to be bent on ruining. In New York, as in other cities, there are Republicans who, having managed to introduce their finger into the public pie, wink at corruption and deprecate exposure of the plunderers. This has rendered the labors of the *Times* far more arduous than they would else have been; but we entertain no doubt that, should the plotters succeed in wresting the management of that journal from its present hands, the prospective paper will eventually become even more successful and influential than the present one. The people whose welfare is bound up in the great issues of moral and corporate right-doing will always in the end reward those who have committed themselves fully to their side.

THE question is raised, in case we get San Domingo who will be more likely to come into the United States Senate than BAEZ, when that country is fully installed as a State, as it soon would be? He is too much of a character to subside after pocketing the larger share of the million and a half dollars in the transaction; and if half the stories are true, he would prove the match of some of our present Senators. If Mr. SUMNER does not exaggerate he would not have much to learn to become an expert in American politics. But, do we want him or his country just now?

THE following statistics show the amount of money borrowed by the various countries of the world during the year 1870. The loans for the first half of the year were for peaceful purposes, principally for the prosecution of great public improvements, but those of the last six months were mainly based in preparations for, or the conduct of actual war. From January to July the loans reached the aggregate of $486,410,570. From July to October they foot up the sum of $464,534,600, almost equal to the amount borrowed during the preceding six months. The last three months of the year show a heavy falling off, the aggregate amount of loans being $191,390,635, making the total amount borrowed during the year $1,142,435,805. These loans were distributed as follows:

France	$854,568,530
Prussia	246,070,650
Russia	139,284,040
Great Britain	83,871,685
Peru	49,170,000
United States	36,754,000
Italy	28,809,265
Egypt	28,205,480
Turkey	27,090,000

These figures however do not necessarily show the actual increase of indebtedness. In many instances the new loans were doubtless effected for the purpose of cancelling old ones. Taken by themselves alone the figures of the above table would indicate a general tendency to bankruptcy, but that would be an erroneous conclusion, since a statement of the amount of indebtedness discharged by the various countries of the world during the year is necessary to the striking of a correct balance sheet showing the actual financial condition of the world. The United States, for instance, is reported a borrower to the amount of $36,764,000, when in fact her actual indebtedness was diminished by about three times that amount. It is certain, however, that a general balance sheet for 1870 would leave the governments of the world largely in debt; inasmuch as the extensive preparations for actual hostilities and for readiness in case of emergency, rendered extraordinary expenditures necessary throughout all Europe, and sent all its governments into the markets as borrowers. The United States is probably the only country enumerated in the list which reduced the principal of its indebtedness.

A WEEK or ten days ago a witness in the suit brought by GEORGE WASHINGTON BOWEN, who seeks to recover the estate of the late M'me JUMEL, on the ground of being her son, cast imputations upon the character of President GEORGE WASHINGTON, by stating that she had heard her mother say that he was the father of the plaintiff. This statement of the witness, an old lady named Mrs. VANDEVORT, created a considerable impression, and has been commented upon in numerous journals, it being so utterly at variance with the popular conception of WASHINGTON'S character. The witness, whose family was on intimate terms of friendship with him, now states that from her mother's way of speaking about the matter she believes it was always said "in fun," and that she—the witness—thought it very foolish to put it in the papers." We are glad that the garrulous old woman has had sense enough to undo, as far as she is able, the mischief wrought by her wagging tongue, and yet there are hundreds of people who read the original scandal but will never see the explanation, and so will go to their graves under the impression that WASHINGTON was a hypocritical libertine. And there are hundreds of others who will believe the first statement but will not believe the second, and who will go about whispering and hinting and chuckling over the supposed frailties of the great patriot.

MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS, now President of the Memphis Life Insurance Company, on the occasion of the reception recently given him by citizens of Selma, Alabama, made a speech in which he is reported to have declared that State sovereignty, although defeated in the late struggle, will ultimately triumph; its day of success might not come in his time, but he would live and die in the belief that it would surely triumph. He also said that he had never asked pardon for what he had done, and he never would, for he felt that he had done right. He had always been willing give his life for his people, and now, if any Yankee power wanted his blood to atone for any action of the Southern people, they could take it. Commenting on this speech of MR. DAVIS, a Selma paper says it is the first time he has touched, in public, upon genuine political questions, and hints that he is probably encouraged to enunciate his still rebellious notions from recent transpirings in public affairs. His utterances are commended to the portion of the Northern press and people which has been led to believe that the cause of the rebellion is a "dead issue" in the minds of the leading men at the South. Is MR. DAVIS preparing to compete for the next Democratic Presidential nomination?

THE Democrats and their allies, the Ku-Klux miscreants, are rapidly bringing the Presidential canvass into shape. A number of the most prominent members of the South Carolina Legislature have been compelled to flee from the State, and outrages against Northern men and Unionists are becoming more frequent all over the South. A private letter from Jacksonville, Florida, informs us that last week a large lumber mill was set on fire, and, with a considerable quantity of lumber, burnt, the owner, a Northern man, who had made himself obnoxious, having previously been "warned." An unsuccessful attempt was made to fire a hotel there, not long since. The letter says that this state of things is owing in some measure to a certain class of Northern men themselves, who disregard the duty they owe to cultivate good feeling and harmony. If Democrats in the North are not in actual sympathy with those who commit outrages, let them say so. It is undoubtedly true these Ku-Klux suppose they have the sympathy of the Northern Democracy, and for aught Democrats say or do, they are right in thus supposing. It is in this way that the Presidential field is being pretty rapidly and accurately staked out.

A LETTER of Gen. R. E. LEE, written in February, 1865, has recently been published for the first time, to show that he favored the employment of negroes as soldiers in his army. He regarded their use in this way not only as expedient but necessary, believing that the Federal authorities would so use them against the Confederates, and he could not see the wisdom of holding the negroes to await the arrival of the Union armies, when they might be used to check their progress. He expressed the opinion that "the negro, under proper circumstances, will make an efficient soldier," and added:

"They possess all the physical qualifications, and their habits of subordination constitute a good foundation for discipline. They furnish a more promising material than many armies of which we read in history, which owed their efficiency to discipline alone. I think those who are employed should be freed. It would be unjust to keep them in a servile condition, for a term of years, to reward masters who have been faithful. Compensation should be made to owners whose servants enter the army, but the best way, in my opinion, to procure them is to make them soldiers. They will then be proud to defend their freedom, and will regard it as a privilege to be permitted to fight for it. I would therefore arm and train a portion of those able to bear arms, selecting the most reliable for that purpose, keeping them in service as long as necessary, and then discharging them with their families, to pursue their occupations. I would call for volunteers, and not impress them. I would form companies, battalions and regiments with their own officers, as far as practicable, and would mix them with the white troops, so as to infuse into them the spirit of the latter. I would not keep them permanently in separate organizations. The reasons which make it necessary for the temporary use of the negro as a soldier, render it inexpedient to make provision for his permanent employment in that capacity. I would only use him as a means to an end, and that end the separation of the races, each to pursue its own destiny. I think the negro can be used as a soldier with perfect safety to ourselves, and with the best prospect of success against the enemy."

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A VERY natural result of the successes of the Germans and the creation of the German Empire is the increased armaments and military expenditures of the other countries of Europe. Bismarck's "blood and iron" theory has evidently made a deep impression upon those nations. England, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Sweden and Switzerland are all engaged in reorganizing and augmenting their forces and *materiel* of war. Expenditures, spurred on by Fear, Jealousy and Economy the pet, have become the pressure this new dread the people are to have their heavy burdens increased, and the nineteenth century rule of civilized Europe is to be represented by the monstrous anomaly of a standing army, with general conscription acting as commander-in-chief. If this is liberalism, what is feudalism? If this is Christianity, what is paganism?

AT ROLLA, Missouri, recently during the pendency of a *habeas corpus* case in the court at that place, the Circuit Attorney, one Harris, in closing his remarks in opposition to allowing the defendant, a woman, to procure bail, drew from his pocket and threw upon the table a roll of bills which, he said, had been given him to influence his action in the case. This incident, naturally enough, greatly astonished the Judge, counsel and spectators. It is added that Harris said he was a poor man, but that no amount of money could swerve him from what he believed to be his official duty. Such incidents are rare, too rare, we may say, in even the best regulated communities.

THE question on which the Democracy are preparing to go before the country is the repeal of the reconstruction acts, upon which the *Herald* remarks as follows: "But if the Democratic party shall attempt again to try the experiment of unsettling the fixed facts resulting from the war they will surely be again defeated. In frankly accepting the Constitution as it is they have a fair prospect of success; but if they will insist upon 'the Constitution as it was' under Buchanan, they will surely be again defeated. It is for the Northern Democracy this time to bring the South to reason, instead of following its fatuous sentiment into a force for action, and to lift politics out of a mere strife for the spoils of possession into the range of ideas, and into the principle which makes the carrying of ideas into the policy of the government the paramount object of party organization."

THE Philadelphia *Press* says there was a partial resumption of coal mining in the vicinity of Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county, last week. Several large collieries are now running there, the miners having assented to the operators' terms without regard to the action of their association at large. Considerable shipments of coal have already been made, which have paid the increased tolls of four cents per on per mile.

FROM all parts of northwest Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin come the most encouraging reports of the growing wheat. It is stated that the crop promises to be one of the most abundant that has ever been produced in these States.

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